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# Boston College Law Library Faculty Newsletter, Winter 2009

Boston College Law Library

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## Faculty Newsletter - Winter 2009

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We hope that you're having a busy and productive semester. Please take a few minutes to look at this Law Library Newsletter, which has information about new services and resources, as well as goings-on in the Law Library this semester. We will explore new electronic resources: the Bloomberg representative will provide an overview of Bloomberg resources on February 10 and a CCH representative will present the online Federal Securities Law Reporter on February 12. We look forward to seeing you at these sessions.

The Law School's first Community Read project was held the first week of February and devoted to James McBride's *The Color of Water*. Students found the book to be "amazing, a very engaging work" that stirred them; in it they saw elements of their own families and their own personal histories.

When you enter the library, stop at the show case to view the Black History month exhibit assembled by students in the Black Law Students Association. The exhibit celebrates African American lawyers, judges, Congressmen and our President, Barack Obama.

And as one more draw, be sure to view the exhibit in the rare book room. A Law Student Collects: Simon Greenleaf and Michael Morales tells through books, pamphlets and letters, the story of how Michael Morales, a 3L at Boston College, became interested in the works of Simon Greenleaf.

Peace, Filippa



[Filippa Marullo Anzalone](#)  
Professor and  
Associate Dean for  
Information and  
Technology Services,  
Law School

### Mark Your Calendars and Join Us!

#### Bloomberg Law

Interested in seeing the depth of financial and legal resources available on Bloomberg? Our Bloomberg representative, Ken Sanchez, will present an overview of Bloomberg's financial and legal resources geared to faculty members on Tuesday, February 10 at 12:45 in Law Library Room 253. You will have an opportunity to enroll for Bloomberg access as well.

There will be a demonstration of the new electronic version of this standard securities research resource on Thurs., Feb. 12 at 10:00 in Law Library 253. The interface and search mechanism employed by CCH is quite different from that of other major research vendors. This demonstration should be a helpful introduction to the new format.

## Introducing BC Law Library's Online Live Research Help

Did you know the Law Library now has an Online Live Help service? Click on the [Online Live Help](#) link in the right margin of the Library's homepage under "Research Starting Points" to chat with the legal reference librarian on duty. A reference librarian will generally be available via instant messaging whenever the Law Library reference desk is open.

If the desk is closed, you can use the Online Live Help chat box to leave a message for the next available librarian. But be sure to include your email address in the message, so the librarian can get back to you. And please spread the word in your classes. The library's reference librarians love research, and always welcome your questions or questions from your students.



## Two Tips to Get the Most Out of Your Librarians

1. Ask for it! The library's interlibrary loan service extends far and wide. We can locate and borrow a book, or request articles from libraries around the world. For example, check [WorldCat](#) to identify books not available at Boston College and then send us an ILL request by clicking on the [ILL Request](#) link in [Quest](#). WorldCat is available under the "Other Library Resources" tab when you open Quest. Just ask, and we'll find it!
2. Make a date. Invite your library liaison librarian to meet to discuss your newest research project. We don't always know when you've taken on a new topic - keep us up-to-date so we can look out for books or articles that might interest you.

## Announcement: Reach Educational Technology Faster!



If you have questions or concerns relating to educational technology, you can now use the email address [lawedtech@bc.edu](mailto:lawedtech@bc.edu) to reach Denise Sharif, Educational Technology Specialist and Chester Kozikowski, Faculty & Technology Support Specialist. This email will allow for faster response times and improved service for your ed tech concerns. For an extensive list of services please visit our [web page](#).

## Two New Databases

Introducing two new online databases accessible from the Law Library's "[Alphabetical List of Databases](#)":

The [Homeland Security Digital Library \(HSDL\)](#), a government database, is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's National Preparedness Directorate, FEMA and the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security. Included are documents from federal, state, tribal, and local government agencies, think tanks, professional organizations, academic institutions, and international bodies. Open access.

The [CCH Federal Securities Law Reporter](#) replaces the old CCH looseleaf service, and includes primary sources

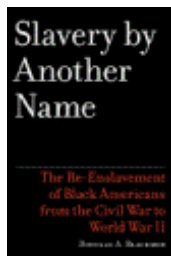
such as securities acts, SEC Releases, Rulings, Opinions and Official Commission Actions, SEC Staff Comment Letters and No-Action Letters, and a U.S. Securities Cases Archive, as well as summaries and discussions of the law. Access is limited to the current BC Community.

## Celebrate Black History Month with the Law Library!



You are invited to stop by the Law Library exhibit case in the entrance to see an exhibit featuring famous African-Americans in the law. The Library thanks Classie Davis, president of the [Black Law Students Association](#), Lum Fobi, a 1L representative for the Black Law Students Association, and Love Obasaju, the historian for the Black Law Students Association, for assembling this interesting and educational exhibit.

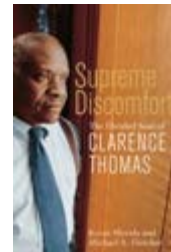
The books highlighted below are a few of many books in the Law Library's collection that focus on the African-American experience in the U.S.



Slavery by another name : the re-enslavement of Black people in America from the Civil War to World War II / Douglas A. Blackmon



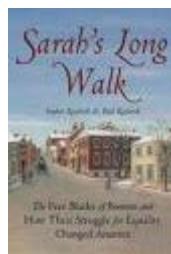
Outsiders within : black women in the legal academy after Brown v. Board / Elwood Watson



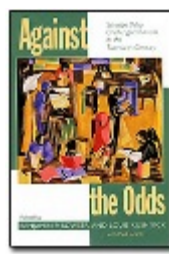
Supreme Discomfort: the divided soul of Clarence Thomas / Kevin Merida and Michael A. Fletcher



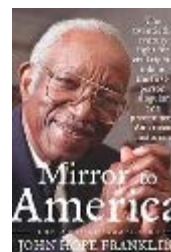
Stepping up : the story of Curt Flood and his fight for baseball players' rights / by Alex Belth



Sarah's long walk : the free Blacks of Boston and how their struggle for equality changed America / Stephen Kendrick and Paul Kendrick.



Against the odds : scholars who challenged racism in the twentieth century / edited by Benjamin P. Bowser and Louis Kushnick with Paul Grant



Mirror to America : the autobiography of John Hope Franklin / John Hope Franklin



Rebels in law : voices in history of Black women lawyers / edited by J. Clay Smith Jr

## Focus on the Presidency

Announcing the [Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents](#)

The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) has created a new publication, the Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents. The first Daily Compilation appeared on the Government Printing Office's (GPO) new Federal Digital System (FDsys) on January 20, 2009 and replaces the printed Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents.



Announcing the new [White House blog](#)



To keep up with the latest news from the Oval Office, drop the WhiteHouse.gov blog feed into your newsreader. Just click on the [RSS link](#), which appears on the blog, and select the reader you prefer ([Google Reader](#) and [Bloglines](#) are two possible choices).

## A Law Student Collects: Simon Greenleaf & Michael Morales in the Rare Book Room



You are invited into the [Daniel R. Coquillette Rare Book Room](#) to view a selection of rare books and documents by and about lawyer, scholar, and law professor Simon Greenleaf, from the collection of Michael Morales, BC Law class of 2009.

Michael first became interested in collecting works by Simon Greenleaf while working as a research assistant for Professor Daniel R. Coquillette during the summer of 2007. As a member of BC Law's Law and Religion Program, Michael was particularly interested in Greenleaf because much of his work combined both law and religion. Michael was also fascinated by Greenleaf because he was an early American legal educator.

Michael bought his first Greenleaf letter on eBay in 2007. Today he is a technology-savvy collector, who uses automatic online searches to alert him when new material comes on the market.

Highlights of the exhibit are available [here](#).

You may view the exhibition anytime the room is open: generally weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will remain on view through early June 2009.

## Laptops in the Classroom

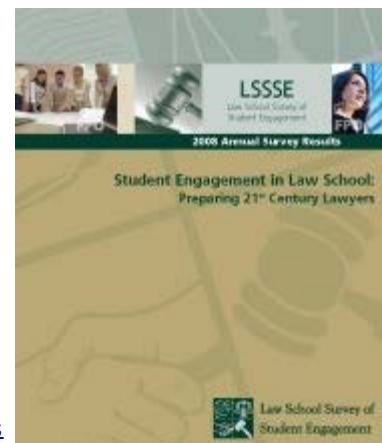
On January 9 the LSSSE (Law School Survey of Student Engagement) released its annual report: [Student Engagement in Law Schools: Preparing 21st Century Lawyers](#).

Among the findings: students who use laptops a lot in class:

- Are more likely to contribute to class discussion (54% v. 45%)
- Are less likely to come to class unprepared (5% v. 10%)
- Work harder to meet faculty expectations (73% v. 62%)

For more about LSSSE's laptop data, see:

- ABA Journal: [Survey Captures 3L Ennui](#), by Debra Cassens Weiss
- Chronicle of Higher Education, [Survey Gets Law-School Students' Thoughts on Laptops, Writing, and Ethics](#), by Steven Bushong
- Inside Higher Ed, [Writing Lags in Law Schools](#), by David Moltz
- Law Librarian Blog, [2008 LSSSE Report Finds Student Use of Laptops in the Classroom Productive Except for Those Bored 3Ls](#), by Joe Hodnicki
- National Law Journal, [Laptops in Class May Give Law Students an Edge](#), by Tresa Baldas



## The Legal Education Commons

The [Legal Education Commons](#), a source of open-access, full-text teaching materials for law school courses, was launched on January 26 by the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction (CALI) and Harvard's Berkman Center for Internet & Society. The Legal Education Commons (LEC) reportedly contains more than 700,000 full text cases and other court documents, plus approximately 300 illustrations from CALI tutorials.

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### Technology Tip: Try Jott.com

If you sign up for a free [jott.com](#) account, you can use your phone to: leave yourself a voice message, have it translated into text, and receive both text and voice by email. Add something to your To Do list; send yourself a reminder. It's great for when you have a phone but can't write yourself a note or go online.

